

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY / MIDDLE EAST UPDATE
January 24 - 30, 2013

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1. [President Obama Announces Additional Humanitarian Aid for the Syrian People](#) (01-29-2013)

Americans and people all over the world have been moved by the images of courageous Syrians standing up to a brutal regime, even as they suffer the consequences of the violence waged against them by the Assad government. Right now, humanitarian conditions in Syria are deteriorating in the face of a massive, man-made humanitarian emergency. People have been forced from their homes; schools, clinics and bakeries continue to be targeted; and food prices are on the rise as winter takes hold.

The numbers are staggering. According to the United Nations, an estimated 2.5 million people are displaced inside of Syria, and over 678,000 people have fled to neighboring countries. Their stories touch us all, and the American people will continue to stand with them. That is why President Obama announced today that he has approved a new round of humanitarian assistance, an additional \$155 million to provide for the urgent and pressing needs of civilians in Syria and refugees forced to flee the violence of the Assad regime. This brings America's contribution to date to \$365 million, making the United States the largest single donor of humanitarian assistance to the Syrian people.

Our assistance is being delivered all across Syria and is providing food, clean water, medicines and medical treatment for hundreds of thousands of people. It will expand the delivery of vaccines for children and clothing and winter supplies for millions of people facing both the regime's brutality and the hardships of winter. It will supply flour to bakeries in Aleppo to provide daily bread, and

allow families to feed their children; it will finance field hospitals to care for those who are wounded; and it will provide care and services for the growing number of victims of sexual violence. Our assistance also supports a growing number of refugees in Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq.

Humanitarian assistance sometimes means the difference between life and death, and that is why courageous men and women have been working day and night to ensure that these supplies are reaching those who need it most. The dangers of operating in Syria mean that many Syrians may not know that the medical care, supplies, and food that they are receiving is being provided by the people and government of the United States. It is a cruel fact that humanitarian aid providers and recipients are being deliberately targeted in Syria. Our priority is to get American aid to those in need without endangering them or our humanitarian partners, which is why much of our aid is provided quietly and without fanfare and acknowledgement.

The good news is that we are able to work with a wide range of dedicated and courageous international partners and Syrian humanitarian organizations whose commitment to reaching those in need is unwavering, and that we are also able to work with the Syrian Opposition Coalition to identify and locate those in need. Also among the many unsung heroes of the humanitarian response in Syria are Syrian-American individuals and organizations, with whom we are working to meet urgent needs now and help lay the ground for a more peaceful future.

The Assad regime is using a destructive and, sadly, not unfamiliar tactic as it attempts to destroy the livelihoods of the Syrian people. But as President Obama said in his video remarks, "We're under no illusions. The days ahead will continue to be very difficult. But what's clear is that the regime continues to weaken and lose control of territory. The opposition continues to grow stronger. More Syrians are standing up for their dignity. The Assad regime will come to an end. The Syrian people will have their chance to forge their own future. And they will continue to find a partner in the United States of America."

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2. Clinton Interview on the Middle East, Her Legacy (01-29-2013)

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton with Elise Labott and Jill Dougherty of CNN

QUESTION: Madam Secretary, thank you very much for talking with CNN. I was thinking I've been following you around for 20 years reporting on you.

SECRETARY CLINTON: Goodness, Jill.

QUESTION: And Elise and I have been on the plane flying around with you for four years, so it's very nice to be here to talk with you at this turning point in your life.

SECRETARY CLINTON: Thank you. And thanks to both of you. I've enjoyed having you be part of the flying circus and traverse the globe, and appreciate the attention that CNN pays to international news stories. It makes a big difference.

QUESTION: It's great to hear that.

QUESTION: Thanks for coming on.

QUESTION: Well, in typical CNN style, let's begin with the news. Egypt.

SECRETARY CLINTON: Yes.

QUESTION: Turmoil.

SECRETARY CLINTON: Yes.

QUESTION: Sixteen people approximately, dead. The head of the army says that the state could actually fall apart, disintegrate. Is he right?

SECRETARY CLINTON: Well, I hope not because I think that would lead to incredible chaos and violence on a scale that would be devastating for Egypt and the region. But there has to be some understanding by the new government that the aspirations that the people were expressing during the revolution in Egypt have to be taken seriously. And it cannot in any way be overlooked that there is a large number of Egyptians who are not satisfied with the direction of the economy and the political reform.

This is not an easy task. I have to jump in and say that we can sit here and talk about it from a distance. It's very difficult going from a closed regime and essentially one-man rule to a democracy that is trying to be born and learn to walk. But there are some clear lessons. You have to represent all of the people, and the people have to believe that. You have to have the rule of law that applies to everyone, not just to some of the people. You have to have a constitution that respects and recognizes the rights of all people and doesn't in any way marginalize any group. So I think the messages and the actions coming from the leadership have to be changed in order to give people confidence that they're on the right path to the kind of future they seek.

QUESTION: Let's move to Benghazi. There have been a lot of questions. You've answered a lot of questions, but there's one in particular. The signs were there. The British Ambassador had been attacked. The walls of the Embassy had been breached. Why didn't you connect the dots, ask the question: Wasn't it too dangerous for Chris Stevens, the ambassador who was one of the most valuable people you had in that region? Why didn't you ask those questions?

SECRETARY CLINTON: Well, we were certainly aware of the increasing threat environment. I not only was briefed on that, I testified to that effect. And there were constant evaluations going on. But no one – not the Ambassador, security professionals, the intelligence community – ever recommended closing that mission. And the reason they didn't was because the ongoing threat environment had, up until the spring before our terrible attack in Benghazi, been a result of post-conflict conditions. That is something that we're familiar with all over the world. Yes, there were some attacks, as you have said, but our evaluation of them and the recommendation by the security professionals was that those were all manageable, because we have a lot of that around the world. I mean, there is a long list of attacks that have been foiled, assassination plots that have been prevented. So this is not some one-off event. This is considered in an atmosphere of a lot of threats and dangers.

And at the end of the day, there was a decision made that this would be evaluated but it would not be closed. And unfortunately, we know what happened.

QUESTION: Quick question on the Middle East peace process. Kerry, the new – who will soon be taking your place, is saying that there should be a new approach. What could he possibly do? I mean, that almost sounds like it's a criticism of the given policy that you have right now.

SECRETARY CLINTON: Oh, I don't think that's at all what John Kerry was referring to. First of all, there was just an election in Israel where the makeup of the government is likely to change. Certainly the makeup of the Knesset has changed. What new opportunities does that present? There is constant pressure on the Palestinian Authority. There are continuing threats to Israel's security from Hamas. There is Syria right on the border that is a very dangerous environment. There is a new regime in Egypt that is constantly being evaluated. So you have to always say to yourself: What can we do and what opportunities are there? And I think if you look at the potential list of changes, it certainly is appropriate for soon-to-be Secretary Kerry to go test that out, to try to figure out is there some other way forward.

And I fully support that. I'm someone who believes strongly that no matter how difficult the road is to try to bring the Israelis and the Palestinians together, you must always try. And if there are new on-ramps and off-ramps and opportunities, use them and see whether you can make even incremental progress, which would be very important to send a message to those Palestinians that still believe in the two-state solution, they are the ones who should be listened to, and send a message to Israelis that their security and stability is paramount and there are ways that they can enhance it by engaging with the Palestinians.

QUESTION: Madam Secretary, I want to read you the headline of an article in the LA Times today. It said, "Hillary Clinton's Legacy at State: Splendid but not Spectacular." (Laughter.) That you were hugely popular in this Administration and around the world, but some of these big-ticket items that we've been mentioning, particularly the Middle East, Iran, North Korea, not solved, still intractable, and maybe even worse in some instances. Is that how you see your legacy, hugely popular but didn't solve these horrible issues?

SECRETARY CLINTON: Well, I think that could be said about nearly every administration and certainly every Secretary of State, because when you come into office you inherit the world that it is in reality, not the way you wish it would be. And I think we have to go back to my beginning in January of 2009 to remember how poorly perceived the United States was, how badly damaged our reputation was, how our leadership was in question, how the economic crisis had really shaken people's confidence in our government, our economic system, our country. Part of my job in the very beginning was to get around the world and restore confidence in American leadership, sometimes against some pretty tough odds because there were a lot of people pointing fingers at us, particularly over the financial crisis.

But it was important to stabilize the situation, which I think we did. I know the President was talking about that in an interview we did the other day, that – let's be realistic here about what the conditions were. We had the war in Iraq that had to be wound down. We had a troop request for 30,000 troops sitting on the President's desk the first day he walked into office. We had so many serious problems.

QUESTION: You had a full plate.

SECRETARY CLINTON: And I don't think anybody can argue with what we did to try to set the table. And then what did we do with that? You can go down the list, and whether it's how we handled the Arab Spring and the work that had to be done in order to try to prevent even more serious challenges, how we put together an international coalition to inflict the toughest sanctions on Iran and North Korea, not that those are solved. But diplomacy is sometimes building on steps one after the other – opening to Burma, pivoting to Asia, working to really strengthen our ties in Europe and Latin America and Africa. I'm very proud of what we've done.

But equally so, we began to practice diplomacy in a different way – not that we jettisoned everything that had been done before, but we added new tools in the toolbox. We also expanded the aperture. Let's look at what technology can do for us. Don't forget women and girls; they're half the population, right?

QUESTION: Well, let me ask you about women, Madam Secretary. You broke a lot of glass ceilings. You brought women a lot in leadership to the State Department. You've said this is your life cause to end the double standard. You're leaving office – four top positions in this Administration in the cabinet, none of them are women. Is that a problem?

SECRETARY CLINTON: Well, I think you have to wait to see the entire makeup of the cabinet --

QUESTION: Top four positions though. The top four secretaries that are considered crucial to this Administration, particularly in national security.

SECRETARY CLINTON: Well, I'm not going to pass any judgments. I think that what we have to do is take a look at the broad picture. But clearly, from my perspective, we have to keep providing opportunities for young women to get into that pipeline so that they are ready.

QUESTION: There are no women out there for these top positions?

SECRETARY CLINTON: Oh, no. Obviously, I think there are. But I think there is still a ways to go until we have the kind of critical mass that I want to see. And we made progress in the number of women in the Senate, but it is still abysmally small. There are so many – on the one hand this, on the other hand, that. We make progress, there's no denying that, but we haven't firmly institutionalized that progress. And as much as we have done here, I look around the world, and my goodness, there is so much to be done.

QUESTION: Well, there are lot of women leaders around the world. In April, you told Wolf Blitzer for 2016, "That's not in my future." But you seem to be – I don't know – (laughter) – like maybe some wiggle room there. Have you decided?

SECRETARY CLINTON: No, no. I am so looking forward to Monday, when I have no schedule, no office to go to --

QUESTION: You know the field --

SECRETARY CLINTON: -- no responsibilities.

QUESTION: I'm sorry, Madam Secretary, you know the party says the field is clear and open for you until you make your decision. Have you decided that you absolutely will not run?

SECRETARY CLINTON: Well, I have absolutely no plans to run.

QUESTION: But look at – (laughter) – you’re not saying – this is not a Shermanesque statement, “I will not run.” We heard this morning all of these people asking you if you can run. There’s a PAC just registered Ready for Hillary.

SECRETARY CLINTON: Is there really?

QUESTION: Are you going to tell these people to stand down?

SECRETARY CLINTON: Well --

QUESTION: Everyone is waiting for that --

SECRETARY CLINTON: Right now, I am trying to finish my term as Secretary of State. And the President and I had a good laugh the other night because I am out of politics right now. And I don’t know everything I’ll be doing. I’ll be working on behalf of women and girls, I’ll be hopefully writing and speaking. Those are the things that I’m planning to do right now.

QUESTION: Let’s talk about when you said “that Monday morning” – we presume next week.

SECRETARY CLINTON: Yes, yes.

QUESTION: Okay, you wake up. (Laughter.) Maybe you stay in your pajamas. What do you do?

SECRETARY CLINTON: (Laughter.) Jill. I don’t know. It’s been my whole life. I mean, I’ve had a job ever since I was 13 years old. When I wasn’t in school, I was working, so --

QUESTION: But is it going to be traumatic? I mean – your Blackberry, are you going to check --

SECRETARY CLINTON: I don’t know. This is – I think it’s going to take some adjustment. I’ve been talking to colleagues who left the government earlier. And the most common thing they say to me is, “Don’t make any decisions. You have no idea how tired you are.” And I think there’s truth to that. Your viewers know, because they’re interested in these issues, this is a 24/7 job because there’s no part of the world we can ignore. Maybe four years, eight years, twelve years, certainly twenty, thirty, forty years, there were big chunks of the world that were not of direct interest to our security or other matters that we were concerned about.

QUESTION: But how did you get the energy – I mean, are you going to be able to stop? Are you going to be able to stop?

SECRETARY CLINTON: Well, you’ll have to talk to me in a few weeks to see how I’m doing. I think that – I’m really looking forward to it. I know it sounds vague, because I have never done this before in my life. So when I wake up, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday to have the luxury of nowhere to go, nothing to do, no frantic call about calling some leader about some impending crisis, I’m actually interested to see how that goes.

QUESTION: Now, what about your health? Because I do have to ask you this. We talked with a couple doctors, and they say that if you have had one blood clot, there is two times the chance that you will have another one. I mean, is this something that you’re going to have to deal with for –

SECRETARY CLINTON: Well, millions of people do. I mean, it’s very common. It’s not --

QUESTION: Will you take medication?

SECRETARY CLINTON: Well, that's what people do when they have blood clots. And then you get evaluated after the blood clot has resolved because, as you say, I experienced this before. But I am lucky because I've been very healthy. I feel great. I've got enormous amounts of energy that have to be harnessed and focused. So I'm very fortunate, and I'm looking forward to this next chapter in my life, whatever it is.

QUESTION: Before you leave --

QUESTION: Jill.

QUESTION: Before you leave --

SECRETARY CLINTON: (Laughter.) Yeah, be subtle, but persistent about it.

QUESTION: (Laughter.) Before you leave, normally a secretary leaves a gift for the next secretary coming in. Can we -- can you tell everybody in the world what you --

SECRETARY CLINTON: No, I'm not going to tell you. I'm going to let that be between John and me. John and I have been friends and colleagues for a very long time. And he's extremely well-prepared, as you know, for this job. And I think he doesn't need very much gifting, but I've got something that might help.

QUESTION: Just one last question about the family. You've got President Clinton, international health, you have Chelsea, who studied international health.

SECRETARY CLINTON: Right.

QUESTION: You're interested in women development, health issues.

SECRETARY CLINTON: Mm-hmm.

QUESTION: So what do you do? Are you -- is there a chance that you will all work together?

SECRETARY CLINTON: I hope so. I mean, that's one of the things we have to really work out, is -- I'm very proud of what my husband has done in the last ten years. I mean, his foundation, his entrepreneurial philanthropy with the Clinton Global Initiative, his great work on getting the price of AIDs drugs down so that more people could get treatment, and so much else. And he is also focused on the health of children here in this country through the Healthy Alliance. So he's doing things that resonate with me as well as with him. And we're going to look to see how we can join our efforts together.

QUESTION: What about Chelsea?

SECRETARY CLINTON: She's great.

QUESTION: She says she wants to lead a life of public service.

SECRETARY CLINTON: Yes, she does.

QUESTION: That makes you proud. Is she going to run?

SECRETARY CLINTON: She – no, I don't know about that.

QUESTION: Family business?

SECRETARY CLINTON: I think she is really focused on the philanthropy. She did a great service after Hurricane Sandy. She took a large group, about 1,000 people that were put together through our foundation and through CGI, to go and do a lot of difficult manual work for people who had been just devastated. She and Bill and I, we are – we just have public service in our DNA. That doesn't have to be political service. It can be what we're doing now, and what Bill has been doing now. So I think we'll work all that out. It's going to be fun to talk it through and figure out what our next adventures might be.

QUESTION: Well, Madam Secretary, thank you very much.

QUESTION: Thank you, Madam Secretary. Good luck.

QUESTION: We wish you a lot of good luck.

SECRETARY CLINTON: Thank you, thank you.

QUESTION: And a lot of adventures.

SECRETARY CLINTON: I think we'll have some adventures and maybe the two of you can come along again some time.

QUESTION: We'd love that. We'd love that.

QUESTION: It's a deal.

SECRETARY CLINTON: Thank you.

QUESTION: Thank you.

3. Air Force Continues Support to France in Mali (01-29-2013)

By Claudette Roulo
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29, 2013 – The U.S. Air Force continues to back French air operations in Mali through refueling efforts, logistical movements, troop transport and information sharing, Pentagon Press Secretary George Little said today.

“Since French operations began Jan. 11, the U.S. has been sharing intelligence with the French,” Little told reporters. The United States has provided airlift support to the French army since Jan. 21, he added, and began refueling support for French air operations Jan. 27.

As of Jan. 27, the U.S. Air Force had flown 17 C-17 sorties, moving more than 391 tons of equipment and supplies and nearly 500 French personnel into Bamako, Little said.

One refueling mission has been conducted so far, Little said, when a KC-135 Stratotanker provided about 33,000 pounds of fuel to French fighter aircraft. More refueling missions are expected to take place today, he added, noting that the United States is in constant consultation with France on their operations in Mali.

Following a phone call between Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta and his French counterpart, the United States also has agreed to support the international effort by providing airlift to countries in the region, including Chad and Togo, Little said.

Further French requests for assistance will be reviewed, Little said, noting that the U.S. strongly supports French operations in Mali against al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb.

“AQIM and other terrorist groups have threatened to establish a safe haven in Mali, and the French have done absolutely the right thing,” Little said. “We will continue to assess their needs and what our support might be in the future.”

Panetta has stressed the need to go after al-Qaida wherever they are, Little said, including its various branches in south Asia and Africa.

“AQIM poses a threat in the region, and I can't rule out the possibility that AQIM poses a threat to U.S. interests,” he said. “This is a group that has shown its ability to demonstrate brutality and to conduct attacks. And it's very important that we work with our partners in the region and our allies to thwart them.”

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4. More U.S. Sanctions Target North Korean Weapons Proliferation (01-28-2013)

Washington — The United States has designated a Hong Kong-based company, two North Korean bank officials, North Korea's space agency and several space officials in response to U.N. Security Council Resolution 2087, which was unanimously adopted on January 22 in the wake of Pyongyang's launch — in direct violation of U.N. Security Council resolutions 1718 and 1874 — of a rocket using ballistic missile technology on December 12.

These sanctions target North Korea's efforts to fund its nuclear and ballistic missile activities and enable the United States to implement Resolution 2087 domestically.

The sanctions generally prohibit transactions between the designees and any U.S. citizen or entity and freeze any assets that the designees may have under U.S. jurisdiction.

According to a January 24 statement from the U.S. Treasury Department, Leader (Hong Kong) International Trading Limited was designated for facilitating the shipment of machinery and equipment to customers on behalf of Korea Mining Development Trading Corporation (KOMID) and to KOMID representatives outside North Korea.

In April 2009, the United Nations designated KOMID North Korea's premier arms dealer and its main exporter of goods and equipment related to ballistic missiles and conventional weapons. The Treasury Department statement said that KOMID aims to facilitate weapons sales, has offices in multiple countries around the world and also operates under the alias Korea Kumryong Trading Corporation.

The Treasury Department also announced designations January 24 of Ra Ky'ong-Su and Kim Kwang-Il, who are the Tanchon Commercial Bank's representative and deputy representative, respectively, in Beijing, because of their actions to facilitate activity on behalf of TCB.

TCB was also designated by the United Nations in April 2009. The bank "plays a role in financing KOMID's sales of ballistic missiles and has also been involved in ballistic missile transactions from KOMID to Iran's Shahid Hemmat Industrial Group (SHIG), the U.S. and U.N.-designated Iranian organization responsible for developing liquid-fueled ballistic missiles," according to the statement.

Under Secretary of the Treasury for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence David S. Cohen said TCB and KOMID are "part of the web of banks, front companies and government agencies that support North Korea's continued proliferation activities," and the Treasury Department's actions to expose those entities and those who assist them "degrade North Korea's ability to use the international financial system for its illicit purposes."

Separately on January 24, the State Department designated the Korean Committee for Space Technology, which orchestrated the December 12 launch. It also designated Paek Chang-Ho and Chang Myong-Chin, two North Korean officials involved with the satellite launch.

In remarks to reporters in South Korea January 24, U.S. Special Representative for North Korea Policy Glyn Davies said the passage of U.N. Security Council Resolution 2087, which was adopted after North Korea's December 12 launch, imposes strong sanctions on North Korea, and he urged all U.N. member states to "do their part" to implement its provisions.

The tightened sanctions against North Korea "will help to impede the growth of weapons of mass destruction programs in North Korea and reduce the threat of proliferation by targeting entities and individuals directly involved in these programs," Davies said.

The ambassador said it is important that the resolution was passed "by unanimous consent of 16 nations from all corners of the world" and followed condemnation of the North Korean missile launch by at least 60 countries and international organizations.

"This broad and growing consensus sends a unified message to Pyongyang. And the message is: 'Live up to your obligations. Keep your promises. Start down the path of denuclearization. Keep the commitment you made in 2005 in the Joint Statement of that year. Or you will only further isolate your nation and impoverish your people,'" Davies said.

Under the 2005 Joint Statement — concluded by North Korea and its partners in the Six-Party process, which include China, Russia, the United States, South Korea, Japan and Russia — Pyongyang agreed to take verifiable steps to end its nuclear programs.

Davies said the United States remains open to "authentic and credible negotiations" with North Korea aimed at implementing the statement.

“We are willing to extend our hand if Pyongyang chooses the path of peace and progress by letting go of its nuclear weapons and its multistage missiles. If North Korea comes into compliance with Security Council resolutions and takes irreversible steps leading to denuclearization, the United States ... and our other partners in the Six-Party process will do the hard work with the DPRK of finding a peaceful way forward,” Davies said.

5. Dempsey Discusses Cyberattacks, Other Issues in NBC Interview (01-25-2013)

By Army Sgt. 1st Class Tyrone C. Marshall Jr.
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25, 2013 – The worrisome nature of cyberattacks, the threat of global terrorism and the military’s need to emphasize character as well as competence were among topics the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff discussed in an interview with correspondent Ted Koppel broadcast last night on NBC’s “Rock Center with Brian Williams.”

Governments, individuals and organizations are engaged in trying to take advantage of vulnerabilities in the cyber domain, Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey said, citing disruptive “denial-of-service” attacks as an example. Such attacks overwhelm websites, rendering them inaccessible to users.

“What I worry about is that a cyberattack could be used to implant a destructive device that could cause significant harm to the industrial base, whether it’s critical infrastructure or the financial network,” Dempsey said.

There are reports that destructive cyber tools have been used against Iran, the chairman said. “I’m neither confirming nor denying any part in that, but what it should tell you is that capability exists,” he added. “And if it exists, whoever’s using those capabilities can’t assume that they’re the only smart people in the world.”

When Koppel asked Dempsey which part of the world he worries about most, the general noted that the threat of global terrorism complicates matters.

“There’s kind of a near-term, long-term aspect to that,” he explained. “I think near-term continues to be the threat of global terrorism. We track a global terrorist network that is not uniquely al-Qaida, but is affiliated at some level with al-Qaida.”

This requires a network to defeat a network, Dempsey said.

“What it means is you’re not going to see these broad, sweeping movements across the desert of eastern Iraq -- ‘Hail Mary,’ ‘right-hand cross,’ or whatever it was called in 1991,” he explained. “You’re going to see smaller groups of military formations confronting these distributed enemies across a much wider scope.”

Although U.S. combat forces will be out of Afghanistan by the end of 2014, Dempsey said, it would be a mistake to give the American people the sense that al-Qaida is defeated.

“I think that it’s fair to say there will be a part of the al-Qaida threat emanating from northwestern Pakistan, and potentially, Afghanistan, for the foreseeable future,” he added.

In the final portion of the segment, Koppel asked Dempsey about recent missteps by senior military leaders. The chairman said the value placed on competence over more than 10 years of war might have been a factor.

“Not that we’ve neglected the character side of this equation,” he added, “but we probably are at a point where we ought to re-emphasize it.”

And perhaps senior leaders need the view from “those that are at the bottom looking up,” Dempsey said.

“I’m actually more interested in, ‘What are the lieutenant colonels saying about the colonels? What are the colonels saying about the brigadier generals?’” Dempsey said.

But although character is important, he added, the bottom line for the military is to protect the nation.

“Competence will always be the most important thing, and you can’t have a man or woman of incredible character who can’t deliver on the battlefield,” the chairman said. “At the end of the day, that’s what we’re accountable for. But character counts, and it counts mightily.”

Biographies:

[Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey](#)

6. U.S. Patriots Set To Begin NATO Missile Defense in Turkey (01-25-2013)

By Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25, 2013 – The first elements of U.S. Patriot missile batteries deployed to Turkey earlier this month are expected to reach initial operating capability this weekend, a senior NATO officer reported.

Plans are on track for two PAC-3 Patriot anti-missile systems and about 400 U.S. personnel deployed to operate them to begin providing missile defense in the coming days, British Army Brig. Gen. Gary Deakin, director of the strategic operations center at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe in Brussels, reported yesterday on NATO TV.

Members of the 32nd Army Air and Missile Defense Command from Fort Bliss, Texas; 3rd Battalion, 2nd Air Defense Artillery, based at Fort Sill, Okla.; and the 10th Army Air and Missile Defense Command and 44th Expeditionary Signal Battalion in Europe deployed to Turkey earlier this month to support the mission. The 10th AAMDC will provide command and control for two Patriot missile batteries from the 32nd AAMDC.

“We are aiming for the first initial operating capability to be established this weekend,” Deakin said.

“NATO will have the ability to defend some aspects of the population of what we’re going to actually cover in the big picture,” he explained during a news conference earlier this week. “The first units will arrive on station. They will plug into the NATO command and control network, and

they will be then ready to defend the population. So that's what we're calling initial operating capability.”

Meanwhile, four additional Patriot batteries from the Netherlands and Germany arrived by sea in Iskenderun, Turkey, earlier this week, he said. They are now fanning out to their designated sites along Turkey’s southwest border.

The U.S. Patriots are in Gaziantep, the Dutch will position theirs in Adana, and the Germans in Kahramanmaras, Deakin reported.

“Those locations were decided in close coordination with our Turkish allies, based on the size of the population and how we could get the equipment to get the best effect,” he said. “A number of factors were considered to get the best deployment options with the resources available from the nations that made the offers in this case.”

The next milestone -- achieving full operational capability -- is expected by the month’s end, Deakin said. This involves getting all six Patriot batteries in place, plugged into the NATO network and coordinated with Turkey’s air defenses. It also includes the full roll-out of the associated sustainment package, consisting of the fuel, logistics and manpower support required to continue the mission long-term.

Once fully in place and at full operational capability, the NATO missile defense systems will help Turkey defend an estimated 3.5 million Turkish citizens, Deakin said.

Although the length of the NATO missile defense mission in Turkey is unclear, he said, all the three nations supporting it have committed assistance for up to a year.

NATO foreign ministers agreed in late November to provide Turkey the air defense support it had requested. The request came after shells from Syria’s political unrest — which a new United Nations report estimated this week has claimed 60,000 lives -- spilled into Turkey.

“NATO has decided to augment Turkey’s air defense capabilities in order to defend the population and territory of Turkey and contribute to the de-escalation of the crisis along the alliance’s border,” the ministers said in a statement released following the meeting.

“Turkey is an important NATO ally, and we welcome the opportunity to support the Turkish government’s request in accordance with the NATO standing defense plan,” said Navy Vice Adm. Charles Martoglio, U.S. European Command’s deputy commander.

Martoglio emphasized that the deployment will be defensive only, and won’t support a no-fly zone or any offensive operation.

Biographies:

[Navy Vice Adm. Charles Martoglio](#)

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[U.S., NATO Patriots Deploy to Augment Turkish Air Defenses](#) (01-08-2013)

7. Remarks by U.S. Envoy for North Korea Policy in Seoul (01-24-2013)

Remarks by Glyn Davies, Special Representative for North Korea Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Seoul, South Korea

AMBASSADOR DAVIES: Most of you are not here because I am here, it is because the President is here. But let me go ahead and make a couple of very quick remarks. I do want to follow up on what I said at the airport yesterday, and then maybe we will have time for a few questions at the end of it. But I do want to clear out in time for the President's departure. I do not want to get in his way.

Obviously what I said yesterday is that I very much look forward to being here in Seoul, South Korea, on the first stop of a three-city visit to North Asia. I started out last night, had an excellent dinner conversation with representatives of the President-elect's transition team. We talked about all the issues. This morning, I checked in briefly with my very good friend Ambassador Sung Kim, met with General Thurman at U.S. Forces Korea. But the most important meeting I have had so far today was the one I just came from with my excellent friend and colleague and partner Ambassador Lim Sung-nam, and we talked about all aspects of the North Korea issue.

I will go on from here to meet with Vice Minister Kim at the Ministry of Unification, and will finish up my formal meetings by going to the Blue House to meet with Ambassador Chun, and I look forward very much to that. Then off to Beijing tomorrow and Tokyo on Saturday.

As I said at the airport, my visit occurs against the backdrop of the action taken by the United Nations Security Council and the passage of Resolution 2087, which condemns the December 12 launch by North Korea of a three-stage intercontinental-type ballistic missile. It imposes strong sanctions on North Korean companies, agencies, individuals. It strengthens the nonproliferation provisions and increases vigilance with regard to DPRK financial activities. This tough resolution, these tightened sanctions are reasonable, necessary, and justified in the face of the DPRK's unacceptable violation of its obligations under previous United Nations Security Council actions.

We now call on all UN member states to do their part in implementing the provisions of the resolutions. The sanctions will help to impede the growth of weapons of mass destruction programs in North Korea and reduce the threat of proliferation by targeting entities and individuals directly involved in these programs.

I think it is exceedingly important, as I said at the airport, that this was passed by unanimous consent of 16 nations from all corners of the world. And this, of course, follows up the very broad coalition of nations, some 60 countries and international organizations which condemned the launch when it occurred. This broad and growing consensus sends a unified message to Pyongyang. And the message is: "Live up to your obligations. Keep your promises. Start down the path of denuclearization. Keep the commitment you made in 2005 in the Joint Statement of that year. Or you will only further isolate your nation and impoverish your people."

Now, you know all of that already. Ambassador Susan Rice, my colleague in New York at UN headquarters, went into detail about the resolutions, so I will not say anything further about that at this moment.

Why am I here? Why am I here with Syd Seiler of the White House staff and colleagues from the State Department? Because we want to reinforce a message that our President and Secretary of State have sent. That message is that we, the United States of America, are still open to authentic

and credible negotiations to implement the September 19, 2005 Joint Statement. We are willing to extend our hand if Pyongyang chooses the path of peace and progress by letting go of its nuclear weapons and its multi-stage missiles. If North Korea comes into compliance with Security Council resolutions and takes irreversible steps leading to denuclearization, the United States said we believe our other partners in the Six-Party process will do the hard work with the DPRK of finding a peaceful way forward.

So our mission, starting here in Seoul, is to explore ideas for how we might move forward, how might we achieve authentic and credible negotiations. It is very much up to Pyongyang to decide. And here in Seoul especially, we want to stress one key point: Without sustained improvement in inter-Korean relations, U.S.-DPRK ties cannot fundamentally improve. This is why our talks here in Seoul are so important to us. Our alliance with the ROK is strong. It is getting stronger. We look forward with great anticipation to deepening our ties under this vibrant democracy's new president.

With that, let me go to your questions very quickly before I think we have to clear out.

QUESTION: Ambassador, is the U.S. and South Korea going to impose its own additional sanctions on North Korea?

AMBASSADOR DAVIES: Well, I think the first step we take, certainly on the part of the United States, will be to implement the provisions of the sanctions contained in the resolution just passed by the United Nations Security Council. We will do that, and then we will take a look at what further steps might be necessary. And of course I cannot speak for the Republic of Korea. It is up to the government here in Seoul to make that decision for themselves.

QUESTION: Will these authentic and credible negotiations be unconditional, that they won't be conditioned on denuclearization? Following North Korean Foreign Ministry statement yesterday, how does this, you know, willingness to continue dialogue fit in?

AMBASSADOR DAVIES: Well, our policy toward North Korea has been the same for a while now. It has been a dual-track policy of engagement when possible, pressure when necessary. We are, of course, in a bit of a pressure phase. But I am here because my role in this as a diplomat representing the United States is to try always creatively to look for ways forward. And we are interested, as we have been all along, as we demonstrated back in 2011 and 2012 through our 10-month effort to talk to North Korea, always interested in trying to find ways forward diplomatically with the North. I think that that has to be ultimately a multilateral process going forward.

So, I am not going to get into conditionality for any diplomatic process going forward. There are obvious things that you know well about. Further provocations are not going to help the process forward. They would only retard it, make it much more difficult for us to engage. It is very important, I stressed this in my statement at the beginning, very important that North-South relations improve, and that is very much up to Pyongyang to accept any overtures it receives, not to further provoke South Korea. So all of these strictures remain in place. All of these conditions remain in place, but beyond that, it does not serve any interest for me to go into further negotiating with North Korea through my discussion here with you today.

QUESTION: What's your prospect about North Korea's nuclear test?

AMBASSADOR DAVIES: Well, I addressed this at the airport yesterday. Whether North Korea tests or not is up to North Korea. We hope they do not do it. We call on them not to do it. It would be a mistake and a missed opportunity if they were to do it. This is not a moment to increase

tensions on the Korean Peninsula. This is a moment to seize the opportunity that has been out there with the new government in Seoul, with the renewal of the mandate of the President of the United States, who has always been interested in finding diplomatic ways forward. This is an opportunity to try to find a way forward in that respect.

So, that is why I am here to emphasize that particular point. Last question.

QUESTION: Can the U.S. government confirm that North Korea is indeed ready for a nuclear test? Because there are reports in South Korea that they are waiting on the political decision.

AMBASSADOR DAVIES: All of you want to write articles about nuclear tests. And you all want to talk about how this is something that North Korea could do in reaction to steps that we take and all of the rest of it. Again, these underground tests, it is not for me to predict whether they will test or not. We hope they do not. We call on them not to do it. It would be highly provocative. It would set back the cause of trying to find a solution to these long-standing problems that have prevented the peninsula from becoming reunited. I think it is very important that they do not test. And I hope you will forgive me, but I am not going to get into talking about what is happening at Punggye, or what is not happening at Punggye, will they test, won't they test. My point is a diplomatic point, that testing a nuclear device would be a supremely unhelpful and retrograde step by North Korea, were they to choose to do it.

Anyway, I have got to go. I think you have your president coming down. I want to get out of his way. Thank you all very much. This has been my pleasure. I hope to see you all again soon. Thank you.
